

cree has forced the Florida Indian into the most desolate lands of the state. Where they once trod as master they now fear to place foot. We cannot be unmoved by the thought that here are the tattered and poverty stricken handfuls of a tribe of warriors that held at bay a strong government for half a century,—a tribe that counted their cattle, their lands and their slaves in magnificent proportions. At the present time, to avoid complications with the South Florida cattle herders, none of the race are permitted to own cattle.

There is a certain pathos in the Indian's story of his relation to the white race, which arrests our attention and compels sympathy. What of the future? Touch any point of the red man's history, where you will, or how you will, and the helpless savage always gets the worst of it. We judge the Indian too harshly. It is hard to give up old traditions, especially if the adherence to them means a life of ease. We are all in the pursuit of that which will make us happy.

The story is the old one of the merciless extinction of the lower race before the higher. It is a story of the "survival of the fittest." The Florida Indian can go no further. An old anecdote is brought to light which illustrates the Indian's own view of the case.

The famous Seneca chief, Red Jacket, once met a government agent, and after pleasant greetings they both sat down on a log, when Red Jacket asked the agent to "move along." The agent did so and the chief followed. This was done several times, the agent humoring the whim of the old chief until he had reached the end of the log, when the same request—"move along," was repeated. "Why man," angrily replied the agent, "I can't move along further without getting off the log into the mud." "Ugh! Just so white man want Indian to move along—move along." And so with the Seminole to-day. The clearings they have made in the forest, the only homes they have ever known have been bought from the state by speculators and they are compelled to "move along."

The history of the western Indian as he sells or surrenders the heart of his great reservation proves that the white man will